

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/767,186

Applicant(s)

SLEMMER ET AL.

Examiner

Tu X. Nguyen

Art Unit

2618

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 2/14/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3-5,7-10,12-14,16-35,37 and 39.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with D. Randal Ayers on March 21, 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 4, lines 5-10, delete the phrase "a user interface located at least partly within the housing that is configured to convey a message that is associated with a text message between a user of the interactive pager and the message processing circuit; and

a communications circuit that is coupled to the message processing circuit and that is configured to convey the text message between the message processing circuit and the interactive pager;

wherein the user interface comprises a microphone, the message comprises an audio message received via the microphone, and the message processing circuit includes a voice recognition circuit that is configured to convert the audio message into the text message." has been replaced with --- a user interface that comprises a microphone located at least partly within the housing, the user interface configured to convey an audio message received via the microphone between a user of the interactive pager and the message processing circuit,

wherein the message processing circuit includes a voice recognition circuit that is configured to convert the audio message into a text message;

a communications circuit that is coupled to the message processing circuit and that is configured to convey the text message from the message processing circuit to the interactive pager; and

a voice synthesis circuit located within the housing that is configured to convert the text message into an audio signal and to play the audio signal to the user before the text message is forwarded to the interactive pager so that the user can confirm that the audio message was properly converted into the text message. ---

In claim 5, line 6, delete the phrase “ processing circuit; and” has been replaced with --- processing circuit; ---

In claim 5, line 9, delete the phrase “ interactive pager;” has been replaced with --- interactive pager; and ---

In claim 5, line 19, delete the phrase “ interactive pager;” has been replaced with --- interactive pager;

wherein the user interface further comprises a speaker and an associated driving circuit and the message processing circuit further comprises a voice synthesis circuit;

wherein the voice synthesis circuit is configured to play through the speaker a second text message that is associated with a second message input via the microphone before the second text message is forwarded to the interactive pager to facilitate confirming that the second text message accurately reproduces the contents of the second message. ---

In claim 7, line 1, delete the phrase “of claim 6” has been replaced with --- of claim 5 ---

In claim 16, line 10, delete the phrase " a voice command;" has been replaced with ---
a voice command; and

a voice synthesis circuit;

a speaker coupled to the voice synthesis circuit;

wherein the voice synthesis circuit is configured to play through the speaker a second text message that is associated with a second message input via the microphone before the second text message is forwarded to the interactive pager to facilitate confirming that the second text message accurately reproduces the contents of the second message. ---

In claim 21, line 2, delete the phrase "a housing;" has been replaced with --- a housing;

A microphone located within the housing; ---

In claim 21, line 9, delete the phrase "user selectable indicia;

wherein at least some of the plurality of pre-defined text messages comprise pre-defined messages that are specified by the user of the interactive pager." has been replaced with --- user selectable indicia;

A voice synthesis circuit;

A speaker coupled to the voice synthesis circuit;

wherein at least some of the plurality of pre-defined text messages comprise pre-defined messages that are specified by the user of the interactive pager;

wherein the voice synthesis circuit is configured to play through the speaker a text message that is associated with a message input via the microphone before the text message that is associated with a message is forwarded to the interactive pager to facilitate confirming

that the text message accurately reproduces the contents of the message input via the microphone. ---

In claim 31, lines 1-2, delete the phrase "further comprising a speaker and a voice synthesis circuit that is configured to convert a" has been replaced with --- wherein the speaker and the voice synthesis circuit are configured to convert a second ---

In claim 37, line 16, delete the phrase "via the microphone." has been replaced with --- via the microphone;

wherein the voice synthesis circuit is configured to play back a message input via the microphone before the message input via the microphone is forwarded as a text message to the interactive pager to facilitate confirming that the text message accurately reproduces the contents of the message input via the microphone. ---

Claims 1-2, 6, 11, 15, 36, 38 and 40-45 have been canceled.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4-5, 7-10, 12-14, 16-33, 35, 37 and 39 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding independent claim 3, the prior art fails to teach "a voice synthesis circuit located within the housing that is configured to convert the text message into an audio signal and to play the audio signal to the user before the text message is forwarded to the interactive pager so that the user can confirm that the audio message was properly converted into the text message", as cited in the claim.

Regarding independent claims 5, 16, 21 and 37, the prior art fails to teach "wherein the voice synthesis circuit is configured to play through the speaker a second text message that is associated with a second message input via the microphone before the second text message is forwarded to the interactive pager to facilitate confirming that the second text message accurately reproduces the contents of the second message", as cited in the claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tu Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-7883.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Urban, can be reached at (571) 272-7899. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


April 3, 2007
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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600